Welcome to
Second Grade!

Dear Parents,

       Welcome to second grade! Your child has reached another stepping stone on the road to success. The teachers that will be working with your child on their journey to success are Ms. Harris, Mrs. Singleton, Ms. Anderson, Mrs. Essono, Ms. Zachary, and Ms. Brown. The second grade teachers look forward to working with you and your child for the 2017-2018 school year. Second grade is a very important year. The curriculum is rigorous, expectations are high, and students are given more independence. Students are expected to work hard, complete all class and homework assignments, follow rules and directions, and be respectful to both adults and peers. As you enjoy your summer, we want to share with you what your child is expected to know upon entering second grade. The following is a list of reading and math skills that your child will be expected to know. Also, you will find a reading list that the Clayton County Public Schools has provided. We are asking that your student read at least ten of the suggested books on the list. We look forward to an awesome year!

Reading & language arts:

- Construct meaning from print
- Understands and interprets stories or short passages
- Recognizes new words by using phonics and/or contextual clues
- Has basic sight vocabulary
- Follows written directions
- Distinguishes beginning, middle, and ending sounds in words
- Demonstrates understanding of stories by identifying the main idea and main characters, placing events in sequence and predicting outcomes
- Reads some compound words and contractions
- Responds to who, what, when, where, how, and why questions

Writing & spelling skills:

- Accurately writes their last name
- Writes words, phrases and sentences to convey messages
- Recognizes conventions of print (punctuation, parts of speech, etc.)
- Writes simple stories with a beginning, a middle and an end
- Writes correctly spaced, complete sentences using correct capitalization and punctuation
- Prints uniformly and legibly
- Spells grade-level words
- Locates words in a picture dictionary
- Uses strategies to create invented spellings
- Uses conventional spellings in commonly used words
- Understands the concepts of synonyms and antonyms

- Identifies beginning, middle and ending consonants aurally and visually
- Recognizes long and short vowel words
- Identifies word endings
- Identifies plural forms and compound words

Listening & speaking skills:

- Listens for meaning in discussions and conversations
- Follows directions that involve a series of actions
- Participates in discussions and conversations
- Expresses ideas clearly (describes, answers questions, retells stories, etc.)
- Describes an object using two or more properties (descriptors)
- Uses "I" and "me" correctly
- Speaks in complete sentences

Math:

Numbers, operations & problem solving:

- Counts by 1s, 2s, 5s and 10s
- Identifies, orders and writes numerals from 0 to 100
- Knows addition and subtraction facts to 50
- Adds and subtracts two-digit numbers to 99 without regrouping
- Shows beginning understanding of place value
- Makes reasonable estimates of quantities
- Identifies whole, half, thirds and fourths
- Names and uses ordinal numbers, such as first, second, third, etc.
- Plots and identifies positive whole numbers on a number line

Geometry & measurement:

- Identifies and draws basic shapes
- Explores and solves simple spatial and measuring problems using manipulatives (hands-on objects that can be counted or sorted) and drawings
- Recognizes and uses standard measuring tools, such as rulers, scales and thermometers
- Understands basic concepts of spatial relationships, symmetry and reflections

Math in action: Telling time, counting money, real-world math:

- Recognizes and adds money to $1.00
- Tells time to the hour and half-hour
- Uses drawings and words to describe mathematical thinking
- Collects and records data using tallies, lists, charts and graphs
- Reads a graph or chart and derives conclusions
- Classifies, sorts and compares physical objects by a variety of classification schemes and patterns (likeness, difference, sound, color, texture, size, weight, temperature, length of time, etc.)
- Makes, copies and extends patterns with actions, objects and words